



Pulse of Wabash

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Board of Health to hold quarterly meeting

The Wabash County Board of Health will hold its quarterly meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 in the EMA Room of the Wabash County Courthouse, 1 W. Hill St., according to Wabash County Health Department office manager and deputy registrar Kathy Lower. For more information, call 260-563-0661.

Salamonie 'Twins Among the Trees' Forest School underway

Children ages 6 to 13 are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool from November 2021 through April 2022 at 3691 New Holland

See **PULSE**, page A3

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Suspect in murder of Illinois police officer arrested in North Manchester



Provided photos by Steve Olsen / North Manchester Real Time Photography

At approximately 9:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 31, officers with the U.S. Marshall's Great Lakes Fugitive Task Force requested the assistance of the Indiana State Police SWAT to serve a search warrant on a residence located in the 1000 block of North Bond Street in North Manchester.

Fellow suspect Xandria A. Harris, 26, of Bradley, Illinois, remains at large

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A suspect in the murder of one Illinois police officer and the wounding of another was arrested early Friday, Dec. 31 at a residence in North Manchester.

The Illinois State Police Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 3 is investigating a shooting involving officers from the Bradley Police Department (BPD) in Bradley, Illinois, according to the Illinois State Police.

At around 12:20 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, the Illinois State Police Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 3 was requested to investigate the shooting of two BPD police officers. Preliminary reports indicate that BPD officers responded to a hotel in the 1500 block of North State Highway 50 for a noise complaint. While investigating the incident, BPD officers initiated a conversation with subjects inside of the hotel, according to the Illinois State Police. During the interaction, Sgt. Marlene R. Rittmanic, 49, and Officer



Indiana State Police Lowell District public information officer Sgt. Glen Fifield, left, and Wabash County Sheriff Ryan Baker, right, hold a press conference Friday, Dec. 31 at the North Manchester Police Department.



SULLIVAN



HARRIS



RIITMANIC

Tyler J. Bailey, 27, were fired upon. Rittmanic and Bailey sustained serious injuries after being struck by gunfire and were transported to area

hospitals for treatment. Rittmanic later succumbed to her injuries. Bailey remains in critical condition at the hospital.

ISP Zone 3 Agents obtained Kankakee County arrest warrants for Darius D. Sullivan, 26, of Bourbonnais,

Illinois, and Xandria A. Harris, 26, of Bradley, Illinois, concerning this incident.

"The senseless harm and killing of two more Illinois police officers bring great sorrow to our agency and to the family, friends, and brothers and sisters of the Bradley Police Department," stated Illinois State Police director Brendan F. Kelly. "The Illinois State Police will use every resource at its disposal to ensure the individuals responsible are brought to justice."

During a press conference on the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 31 at the North Manchester Police Department, Indiana State Police Lowell District public information officer Sgt. Glen Fifield was joined by Travis Heishman with Fulton County Sheriff's Department, Fulton County Sheriff Chris Sailors and Wabash County Sheriff Ryan Baker.

"First of all, I want to express all of our condolences and our thoughts and prayers are extended to the family,

See **SUSPECTS**, page A2

ISDH reports three new local COVID deaths over the holiday

Gov. Eric Holcomb extends public health emergency for another month

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

During the weekly county metric updated Wednesday, Dec. 29, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) showed Wabash County's COVID-19 advisory as red, the highest level, for the sixth week in a row.

On Wednesday, Dec. 29, the ISDH reported two new local COVID-19 deaths, bringing Wabash County's total to 129. And on Thursday, Dec. 30, the ISDH reported one more local COVID-19 death, bringing Wabash County's total to 130.

Also, on Wednesday, Dec. 29, Gov. Eric J. Holcomb signed Executive Orders 21-33 and 21-34, extending the public health emergency for another month, according to press secretary Erin Murphy. The Executive Orders expire on Jan. 31.

Meanwhile, on Sunday, Dec. 19, the ISDH announced that it had detected the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus in a specimen collected from an unvaccinated Indiana resident.

The variant was detected through the ISDH Laboratories variant surveillance program. The specimen was collected on Dec. 9, and the patient was notified of the positive test. The sequencing to detect a variant was then conducted, and the Omicron variant was detected this weekend.

Indiana was one of just seven states in which Omicron had not yet been detected, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Omicron variant is the latest mutation of the virus that causes COVID-19. The World Health Organization (WHO) labeled it a variant of

See **DEATHS**, page A4

City's Hoosier Homes event rescheduled for Wednesday

Wabash City Council originally passed a resolution joining the program in August 2021

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

An event regarding a program the city recently joined intended to help local home buyers, which had been scheduled for last month, has been rescheduled for this week.

The event was originally scheduled for Dec. 15, but on Dec. 14, city receptionist Maria E. Smyth said "due to

COVID Mayor Scott Long is in quarantine for the next 10 days" and it had to be rescheduled.

But on Tuesday, Jan. 4, Smyth said Long invited all realtors and home lenders to a Hoosier Homes Program press conference at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 5 at Wabash City Hall Council Chambers. "We will also have three representatives from Hoosier Homes to help answer questions," said Smyth.

At 10:05 a.m. Long is scheduled to provide updates on the city's participation in the program. At 10:20 a.m., Housing Resource Hub co-founder and

chief operating officer Ryan Chasey is scheduled to provide an introduction and launch the local program. At 10:30 a.m., a closing and question and answer session is scheduled.

"Homeownership stabilizes families and communities. Best of all if you're looking to buy a home in Wabash, homeownership is possible," said Long.

Smyth said Long had recently authorized a new down payment initiative "to make the dream of homeownership a reality for those who want to make Wabash their home."

See **EVENT**, page A2

IHCDA seeks volunteers to count Hoosiers experiencing homelessness

Annual Point in Time Count scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 26

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

State officials are searching for volunteers to participate in an annual study of the ongoing crisis facing Hoosiers who are experiencing homelessness.

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) and partner agencies across the state coordinate to

conduct a one-night count of the homeless population, called the Point in Time (PIT) Count. This year's count will take place Wednesday, Jan. 26. State officials are seeking volunteers in every county to help conduct the count.

IHCDA's partner agencies in this effort are members of Indiana's Balance of State Continuum of Care, which comprise 91 of the state's 92 counties — every county except Marion. The count is required by the U.S. Department

See **IHCDA**, page A4



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COVID-19 surge not deterring push to end Indiana emergency

By TOM DAVIES
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana’s ongoing spike in COVID-19 illnesses isn’t deterring state leaders, who remain determined to bring an end to the official statewide public health emergency.

The Republican-dominated state Legislature started its 2022 session Tuesday and planned to quickly take up actions that GOP Gov. Eric Holcomb says will allow him to drop the emergency declaration that he first issued in March 2020. Those steps come as health officials are concerned about the fast-spreading omicron variant further stressing Indiana’s hospitals that have been facing their highest-ever overall patient loads.

A House committee is set to vote Thursday on a bill that includes administrative actions sought by Holcomb.

EVENT

From page A1

Due to a resolution passed during an August 2021 Wabash City Council meeting, local home buyers will have the new financing tool at their disposal. The resolution enters the city into a cooperative agreement with the Indianapolis Housing Agency (IHA) to participate in the Hoosier

Homes Program.






The IHA sponsors and administers the Indiana Housing Initiative, also known as the Hoosier Homes Program, to “provide a homeownership program with competitive HUD, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac eligible mortgage loans and down payment and closing cost assistance towards the purchase of existing and newly constructed homes.”

Long said this financing tool

is used in around three dozen states throughout the country. The IHA is the state authority for this funding program.





Long said the program would not cost the city anything and that a per loan fee will be paid to the city in the amount of .0025 percent of the first mortgage amount of every loan originated through this program. The IHA will receive a fee of \$150 for every loan purchased by the servicer.

5-Day Weather Summary

 Wednesday Mostly Cloudy 37 / 15	 Thursday Scattered Snow 20 / 7	 Friday Partly Cloudy 19 / 13	 Saturday Mostly Cloudy 41 / 33	 Sunday Few Showers 44 / 16
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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 5:33 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 8:03 a.m.

 First 1/9	 Full 1/17	 Last 1/25	 New 2/1
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Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 37°, humidity of 62%. West southwest wind 16 to 21 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 15°. West wind 6 to 16 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 3°.



ABOVE: Assisting at the scene were the Fulton County Sheriffs Department, Wabash County Sheriffs Department, Kosciusko County Sheriffs Department, Warsaw Police Department, North Manchester Police Department, Akron Police Department, North Manchester Fire Department, Manchester University Security, Lutheran EMS and the Wabash Fire Department.

By ROB BURGESS / Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

TOP LEFT: Manchester University was locked down for a short time while the search warrant was being served. **BOTTOM LEFT:** During the execution of that warrant, two individuals were taken into custody.

Provided photos by Steve Olsen / North Manchester Real Time Photography

SUSPECTS

From page A1

the coworkers and the community of Kankakee and the loss of Sgt. Marlene R. Rittmanic and the injuries to Officer Tyler J. Bailey,” said Fifield. “Any time an officer is killed in the line of duty no matter where it happens anywhere in the country, it affects all of us.”

Fifield said at around 3:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 31,

the Fulton County Sheriff’s Department initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling the wrong way on a one-way road in Rochester. As a result of that traffic stop that was initiated, a pursuit took place. Upon the conclusion of the pursuit, a foot pursuit then took place, with the officers giving chase. Two individuals – Bryce Baker, 20, and Joshua Allen, 19, both from Kankakee, Illinois – were taken into custody without incident. Those two individ-

uals were charged with possession of stolen property, resisting law enforcement and possession of a handgun with no license.

“After the pursuit, a handgun, as well as narcotics were recovered from the scene,” said Fifield.

At approximately 9:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 31, officers with the U.S. Marshall’s Great Lakes Fugitive Task Force requested the assistance of the Indiana State Police SWAT to serve a search warrant on a residence located in the 1000 block of North Bond Street in North Manchester.

During the execution of that warrant, two individuals were taken into custody. One of the individuals, Sullivan, had active warrants for first-degree murder, attempted murder and aggravated battery with a firearm. These charges stemmed from the murder of Rittmanic and the injuries to Bailey. Sullivan is currently being held at the Wabash County Jail. Also arrested at the residence was Daniel Acros, 19, from Kankakee, Illinois. He was preliminarily charged with weapon and narcotics charges in Wabash County as a result of the search warrant.

“This is an ongoing investigation by the Illinois State Police,” said Fifield. “Further questions into the murder of Sgt. Rittmanic and the shoot-



Provided photo by Steve Olsen / North Manchester Real Time Photography

During a press conference on the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 31 at the North Manchester Police Department, Indiana State Police Lowell District public information officer Sgt. Glen Fifield, second left, was joined by Travis Heishman with Fulton County Sheriff’s Department, right, Fulton County Sheriff Chris Sailors, second right, and Wabash County Sheriff Ryan Baker, left.

ing of Officer Bailey should be directed to the Illinois State Police. The Indiana State Police will not comment on their investigation.”

Assisting at the scene were the Fulton County Sheriffs Department, Wabash County Sheriffs Department, Kosciusko County Sheriffs Department, Warsaw Police Department, North Manchester Police Department, Akron Police Department, North Manchester Fire Department, Manchester University Security, Lutheran EMS and the Wabash Fire Department.

Fifield said Manchester University was locked down during the search warrant

“and there was a building that was searched as a result of some other investigation.”

“It was locked down for a brief period. That lockdown has since been lifted. So right now I can say there is not an active threat to the citizens in the community here,” said Fifield.

On Monday, Jan. 3, Manchester University’s Office of Strategic Communications assistant director of media relations Anne Gregory said they issued the lockdown alert at 9:22 a.m. and the all-clear alert at 10:54 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 31.

“The decision to implement any emergency campus

lockdown is made when we believe there is a risk of danger to members of the MU community on or near our campus,” said Gregory. “The action is taken by University Safety in coordination with University leadership. In this case, the Indiana State Police informed us that federal law enforcement officials asked that we lock down our campus because of the nature of the crime and that the suspect was considered to be armed and dangerous.”

Illinois State Police Division of Criminal Investigation Zone 3 is conducting a thorough investigation and would like to request the public’s assistance. If anyone has any information on the whereabouts of Harris, or any information regarding this incident, call 815-698-2672 or 815-93-CRIME.

“Callers can remain anonymous. There is no further information available at this time,” stated the Illinois State Police. “The public is reminded that all suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.”

No further information was available as of press time. This story will be updated as more information becomes available.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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Wabash Plain Dealer

VOL. 164 NO. 1

99 W. Canal St., Wabash, Ind. 46992

Circulation

- Customer Service 260-563-2131
- Telephone Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Delivery: Your newspaper is delivered by the USPS and will arrive with your daily mail.
- Missed your paper? We sincerely hope not, but if you did please contact your local post office. To verify that your account is active, call us at 260-563-2131.
- Home delivery subscription rates: 13 weeks, \$59.50. EZ-Pay, monthly, \$18.65.
- Other payment options available

by calling Subscriber Services at 260-563-2131.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to Wabash Plain Dealer, 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

- There will be a \$10 early termination fee to cancel an existing subscription prior to expiration date.

Advertising

- 260-563-2131 (after hours, press 5 for advertising)
- Classified: classifieds@wabashplaindealer.com
- Legals: legals@wabashplaindealer.com
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USPS 663-940

Wabash Plain Dealer
established September 1858

Published Wednesdays and Saturdays (except on postal holidays) by Paxton Media Group, by the Wabash Plain Dealer, 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992. Periodical postage paid at Wabash, Ind.

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Obituaries

Raymond Edward Patterson

July 22, 1930 – Jan. 1, 2022

Raymond Edward Patterson 91, of Peru, passed away peacefully at 10:35 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022, at his home with daughters at his side.

He was born on July 22, 1930, in Peru, Indiana to Russell Calvin and Mary Veronica (Butzin) Patterson. He was born and raised in Bloomfield and lived there all his life. He was the “mayor” of the neighborhood.

He was married on March 24, 1950, in Peru, to Phyllis M. Moon and they enjoyed 56-1/2 years together.

He retired from Bryan Steam Corporation, Peru, in 1996 after 36-1/2 years. During his employment there he drove steel tubes into boilers with a hammer and eventually operated an automatic tube bender. After his retirement, some of “the guys” would stop by to chat with him, which he thoroughly enjoyed.

He was a great father, grandfather, Big Pawpaw and teacher, sharing his knowledge down through the generations. He enjoyed



hunting, fishing, mushroom hunting, gardening, and keeping his lawn in “tip top” shape. Another one of his enjoyments was the family tradition of hog butchering, typically done on Thanksgiving Day each year. That tradition began at the family homestead with the four brothers and a sister and their married and single children and grandchildren. It was always a long day of hard work, but a good time had by all.

Survivors include his daughters, Carol (Walt) Miller, Diana Alfrey, and Jane (Jim) Babbs all of

Peru; grandchildren Matthew Miller, Timothy Miller, Daniel Miller, Michelle Hayes, Johnny Alfrey, Curtis Babbs, Craig Babbs, Chad Babbs, twenty-one great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Phyllis, brothers James, Henry (Bud), Norman and Russell, Jr., sisters Emma Lennon, Thena Chandler, Mary Lennon, great-granddaughter Corinna Miller, great-grandson Trintyn Hayes and son-in-law John Alfrey.

Services will be at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022 at Riverview Funeral Home, 421 W. Canal St., Peru.

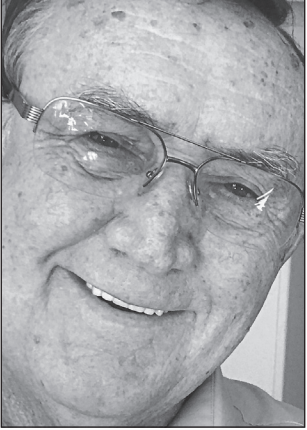
Visitation will be from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2022 at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Raymond’s online guest-book is available and condolences can be made to the family at www.riverviewfhperu.com.

Elmer Griffey

Feb. 14, 1940 – Jan. 2, 2022



(Nadine) Baker of Pierceton, Indiana, five grandchildren, Garrett Griffey and Caitlin (Aaron) Wagoner, both of Fort Wayne, Kaleb Bollinger, Makayla Bollinger, and Keith Bollinger, all of Wabash, seven great grandchildren, Luna, Thomas, Grace, Hendrix, Ollivander, Koa, and Cedar,

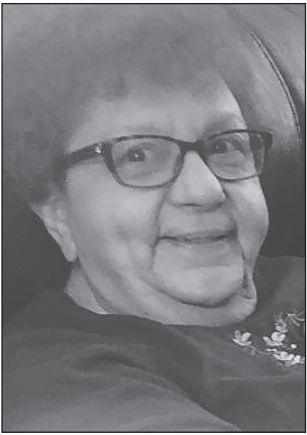
brother, Moses Griffey of Shipshewana, Indiana. He was preceded in death by his parents, son, Gary D. Griffey, six brothers, Robert, Henry, Paul, Estill, and Ellis Griffey, and Dean Smith, six sisters Mary Elizabeth Griffey, Lydia Dials, Ruth Blankenship, Mary Skeens, Dora Alice Dials, and Martha Jean Murphy.

Funeral services will be 2:00 pm, Friday, Jan. 7, 2022, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Pastors Gerald Holmes and Tim Morrisett officiating. Entombment will be in Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum, Wabash. Friends may call 4-8pm Thursday, at the funeral home.

The memorial guest book for Elmer may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Doris Louise Moore

Aug. 29, 1945 – Jan. 2, 2022



dren, Kelley (Brian) Hayes of Ossian, Indiana, and Von (Joanna) Moore of Somerset, two granddaughters, Lucy Hayes of Ossian and Susanna Moore of Somerset, brothers and sisters, Bonnie (Duane) Caudill of Silver Lake, Indiana, Tom (Amy) Haecker of Wabash, Juanita Mays of Bunker Hill, Indiana, David (Connie) Summers of Wabash, Scott (Steph-

anie) Summers of Roann, and two sisters-in-law, Chris Haecker of North Manchester, Indiana, and Ruth Haecker of Morton, Illinois. She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, William “Bill” Haecker, Robert “Bob” Haecker, and Emory Francis Summers, and two sisters, Annette Stout, and Joretta Kerschner.

Family will receive friends from 3-7 pm Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave. Wabash. There will be a memorial service at a later date. Inurnment will be in the Marion National Cemetery

Preferred memorial is Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana, 6316 Mutual Drive, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46825.

The memorial guest book for Doris may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Richard Basil Hoover Jr.

Richard Basil Hoover Jr., 75, Servia, Indiana, passed away Dec. 27, 2021.

The memory of Richard Basil Hoover Jr. will be cherished by brother, Van (Sandra) Hoover, Bippus, Indiana; sister, Diana (Richard) Steele, North Manchester, Indiana; friend and caretaker, Wallace (Melody) Dingess, Servia, Indiana; and the many friends and coworkers he met over

the years.

Family and friends may call Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester, Indiana. Funeral services will begin at the conclusion of calling.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

William ‘Bill’ Phillip Lines

William “Bill” Phillip Lines 81, a lifetime resident of LaFontaine, passed away on December 31, 2021.

Per William’s request there will be no services.

McDonald Funeral Homes, LaFon-

taine Chapel, 104 South Main Street, LaFontaine, Indiana 46940, have been trusted with William Line’s final arrangements.

Online condolences may be directed to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com

PULSE

From page A1

Road, Andrews. The class will be offered one Wednesday a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, Andrews. Classes will be held on Wednesdays: Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 2 and April 20. Advance registration is required. Limited space is available. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

NMPL holding fifth annual Fine Forgiveness Week

The North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) will be “celebrating the new year and new beginnings” by forgiving library fines on overdue materials. The NMPL’s fifth annual Fine Forgiveness Week will last through Saturday, Jan. 8. If patrons have overdue library materials, they may bring them to the library during Fine Forgiveness Week and all fines for returned items will be forgiven. For more information, visit www.nman.lib.in.us.

‘Bite in the 85’ dining program to launch

Visit Wabash County has announced the launch of a new program coming to Wabash County called “Bite in the 85,” which will take place from Monday, Jan. 10 through Monday, Jan. 31. For three weeks, the participating restaurants will have the opportunity to offer their specials and deals to the public, including 50 East Garden Center and Café, 950 Speakeasy Bistro, Eugenia’s Restaurant, Harry’s Old Kettle Pub & Grill, Market Street Grill, Modoc’s Market, Pizza King and Twenty. The public will have the opportunity to win gift cards to the participating restaurants and five winners will receive a \$100 gift card. Entries will be collected by filling out a short online form that will be ac-

cessible by a QR code on all “Bite in the 85” menus at the participating restaurants. For more information, visit VisitWabashCounty.com/bite-in-the-85.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to hold January meeting

The Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 at the Grandstaff-Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave. The program will be on France Slocum of Miami County, presented in first person by Sharon Dillman, Regent of the Nineteenth Star DAR Chapter in Peru. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may visit www.dar.org or call Tamra Wise at 260-527-2208 or Barbara Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15; and noon Wednesday, Jan. 12 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month-c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

Money Smart Program planned at Wabash County YMCA

The Wabash County YMCA has announced the upcoming Money Smart

Program in conjunction with Crossroads Bank. The eight-week program begins at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at the Wabash County YMCA, 500 S. Cass St. Participants will learn topics such as choosing financial products that are right for you, managing income, creating and implementing savings and spending plans, using credit to borrow money, protecting your financial rights and safeguarding your money, determining your readiness to buy a home and recovering from financial setbacks and rebuilding credit. Seating is limited, so register soon. Registration forms may be picked up and dropped off at both the Wabash County YMCA or Crossroads Bank, or completed forms can be emailed to pgodfroy@wabashcountymca.org or jwhetstone@crossroadsbanking.com. For more information, visit www.wabashcountymca.org. To make a tax-deductible donation, email jdriskill@wabashcountymca.org.

Salamonie Preschool offers ‘S is for Snow’ on Jan. 19

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool’s “S is for Snow” on Wednesday, Jan. 19. Come play in the snow and learn how it is made, Children ages 2 through 5 and their adults are welcome to attend the class from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Salamonie Interpretive Center located in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews. Each program is designed to enhance the preschooler’s basic education, including music, crafts, social interaction and time outdoors, always with a nature-related theme. Note that details of this event may be subject to change based on the state’s response to COVID-19. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit Facebook.com/UpperWabash, <https://on.IN.gov/salamonielake> or

dnr.IN.gov.

Salamonie Forest Preschool underway

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool through May 2022 for one Tuesday a month or two Tuesdays a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area. Classes for the once-a-month option will be held Tuesdays including Feb. 1, March 1, April 12 and May 3. Classes for the second meeting time each month will also be held Tuesdays including Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 15, April 26 and May 17. Advance registration is required. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Manchester exhibit honors indigenous identity

Link Gallery at Manchester University offers art pieces by North Manchester resident Briana “Bri” Floor in “Indigi-Flections: Reflections on an Indigenous Identity.” The exhibit continues through Feb. 4. Link Gallery is in Winger Hall on East Street in North Manchester. The public is welcome, and masks are required inside MU buildings.

Manchester Symphony Orchestra announces 83rd season

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra under Conductor Debra Lynn heads into its 83rd season with these concerts in the works: Trailblazers is March 13, at the Honeywell Center in Wabash, Indiana. It celebrates African-American composer Florence Price and her Symphony No. 1 in E minor. The concert will also feature high school and college winners of the orchestra’s concerto competition. Spaces on May 15, in Cordier is the final concert of

the season, showcasing the world premiere of Lynn’s five-movement concerto titled Spaces, written specifically for guest artist Derek Reeves. He is the principal violist of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic. All concerts are at 3 p.m. on Sundays. Masks and social distancing are required.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplainedealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

State limits rapid COVID tests due to supply shortage

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indiana Department of Health announced Tuesday it has limited who is eligible for rapid COVID-19 tests at state-run sites due to high demand and a surge of cases amid the spread of the omicron variant.

Under new state guidance, rapid antigen tests at state and local health department testing sites will only available to those 18 or younger, regardless of symptoms, or those who are 50 and older, but symptomatic.

The department said the change is necessary “due to the national shortage of rapid antigen tests.” Health officials said the new protocols will ensure students can stay in school and so residents who are most likely to need a monoclonal antibody can get it within the prescribed window.

The state uses about 50,000 rapid tests a week but is only guaranteed to receive 11,000 a week right now, according to the state health department.

Rapid test appointments previously scheduled for Tuesday will be honored while supplies last. No appointments for rapid tests can be honored at state or local health department sites after that, except for those still eligible for tests under the new guidance. PCR tests will continue to be offered at all testing sites, with results expected in two to three days.

In addition to the guidance changes, the state plans to increase hours at several testing sites.

The community testing and vaccination clinic outside the Indianapolis Motor Speedway will open from noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays through Jan. 22.

The clinic, which is being held in the INDYCAR parking lot, will accept walk-ins only from noon to 4 p.m.

DEATHS

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concern on Nov. 26. Studies have shown that the variant spreads more easily and faster than the Delta variant.

The CDC stated COVID-19 vaccines are expected to continue to prevent severe illness, hospitalization and death from the Omicron variant. Evidence shows that individuals who are fully vaccinated and have received a booster dose are best protected against this variant.

On Monday, Dec. 27, the CDC announced that “given what we currently know about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant,” they were shortening the recommended time for isolation from 10 days for people with COVID-19 to five days, if asymptomatic, followed by five days of wearing a mask when around others.

The CDC also updated the recommended quarantine period for those exposed to COVID-19. For people who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose – or more than two months after the Johnson & Johnson vaccine – and not yet boosted, CDC now recommends quarantine for five days followed by strict mask use for an additional five days.

“These changes are based on the fact that science has found that most transmission of the virus that causes COVID occurs early in the illness, typically one to two days before symptoms develop and in the two to three days after symptoms develop,” said state health commissioner Dr. Kristina Box, during a televised press conference Wednesday, Dec. 29, in response to a Plain Dealer request. “We do know that asymptomatic people who test positive can still transmit the disease, so adhering to the mask guidance is critical to prevent further spread of COVID-19. The data and the science behind that are that 85 percent to 90 percent of people are no longer infective after day five. So consequently if you look at this there is another 10 percent to 15 percent and we’re really picking those people up by mandating or asking, requesting strongly if you want to follow these guidances that you need to be masked for the next five days any time you’re around other people. So, we do support those based on the science behind it.”

Data from South Africa and the United Kingdom demonstrate that vaccine effectiveness against infec-

tion for two doses of an mRNA vaccine is approximately 35 percent. A COVID-19 vaccine booster dose restores vaccine effectiveness against infection to 75 percent, stated the CDC.

All this news comes as local vaccination rates continue to lag behind the state average. In the zip code 46992, which comprises Wabash, 41.5 percent of the eligible population has been vaccinated. Statewide, that figure sits at 54.8 percent, as of Tuesday, Jan. 4.

The eligible population for vaccinations increased recently as the minimum age was lowered from 12 to 5. On Wednesday, Nov. 3, the ISDH announced that Hoosiers ages 5 to 11 are now eligible for a free COVID-19 vaccine following the previous day’s authorization of the pediatric vaccine by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Pfizer vaccine is the only COVID-19 vaccine that is currently authorized for use in individuals under age 18.

On Friday, Dec. 10, the ISDH announced that any Hoosier aged 16 or older can receive a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine so long as they received their second dose at least six months ago.

The CDC on Thursday, Dec. 9 approved the administration of a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine for individuals 16 and older following the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA’s) decision to expand its Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to include individuals ages 16 and 17. The Pfizer vaccine is the only vaccine authorized for use in individuals younger than age 18.

Hoosiers aged 16 and older who want to obtain a booster dose should go to www.ourshot.in.gov and look for a location that carries the Pfizer vaccine, designed by PVAX, or call Indiana 211 (866-211-9966) for assistance finding a location. Appointments are recommended, but many sites also accept walk-ins.

The Parkview Health COVID-19 vaccine clinic, currently located at 3718 New Vision Drive, Building C, Fort Wayne, offers first, second and booster doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Booster shots are now recommended for anyone age 16 and older. To make an appointment, visit ourshot.in.gov or call 260-266-0778 or toll-free, 877-651-0748. Walk-ins are also welcome.

On Tuesday, Jan. 4, the ISDH announced they were making several changes to testing operations due to high demand and a national shortage of rapid test kits.

Hours are being extended at the community testing and vaccination clinic outside the Indianapolis Motor Speedway to noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays through Jan. 22.

The clinic, which is being held in the INDYCAR parking lot, 4551 W. 16th St., Indianapolis, across from Gate 2, will accept walk-ins only from noon to 4 p.m.

The two-dose Pfizer pediatric and adult vaccines, as well as the two-dose Moderna vaccine, are available.

Rapid tests at state and local health department testing sites will only be available to individuals aged 18 and younger and symptomatic individuals aged 50 and older.

“This change is necessary due to the national shortage of rapid antigen tests and is designed to help ensure that students can stay in school and that Hoosiers who are most likely to need a monoclonal antibody are identified within the prescribed window in which they can be administered,” stated the ISDH.

Indiana typically uses about 50,000 rapid tests per week but is only guaranteed to receive 11,000 a week at this time.

Appointments for rapid tests previously scheduled will be honored while testing supplies last, but no appointments for rapid tests will be honored at state or local health department sites going forward except for individuals who fall within the above categories. PCR tests, which are the gold standard, will continue to be offered at all testing sites, with results expected in two to three days.

Click on the testing map at www.coronavirus.in.gov to find a testing location. Visit ourshot.in.gov to find a vaccination site.

The ISDH stated that the following steps may help protect Hoosiers from COVID-19, including the Omicron variant:

- Get fully vaccinated if eligible, and get a booster if you are age 16 or older.
- Wear well-fitting masks over your nose and mouth in indoor public settings and crowded outdoor settings.
- Get tested if you have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Avoid crowds.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

IHCDA

From page A1

of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and must be conducted at least biennially.

The PIT Count is a census of all unsheltered and sheltered persons experiencing homelessness across Indiana communities.

“This count is a critical tool utilized by service providers working directly and indirectly with homeless individuals and families throughout the year. While a public place’s count can be subject to seasonal and other variations, the PIT Count is currently the most feasible method for gathering important information on homeless individuals and families,” stated the IHCDA.

Volunteers interview on the street, at shelters and at service-based organizations – including food pantries, emergency rooms, police stations, libraries, health clinics and soup kitchens.

Those wishing to volunteer should email HMIS@ihcda.in.gov by Wednesday, Jan. 12 with their name, city of residence and the counties they are willing to volunteer in.

During last year’s PIT Count in Wabash County, Advantage Housing case manager Samie McFadden set up shop at White Rock Recreation, where they handed out carry-alls, backpacks, blankets, can openers, hand warmers, hygiene kits and treat bags.

McFadden said last year’s count of those experiencing homelessness was similar to previous years, but that the eviction moratorium that had been in effect during the early days of the pandemic has left some thinking it “meant they never had to pay their rent.”

McFadden said people were also evicted for other reasons having nothing to do with the pandemic.

“People have to be good tenants to stay in their homes,” said McFadden.

The Region 5 Planning Council serves Cass, Howard, Miami, Tipton and Wabash counties and administers the local count each year.

At the state level, in December 2020, Gov. Eric Holcomb and Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch

addressed the 29th annual Dentons Legislative Conference to present their 2021 Next Level Agenda. During their remarks, Crouch said housing stock was of “critical importance” as they sought to continue building the state’s workforce. Crouch said IHCDA was creating a public-private partnership “to develop a comprehensive overview of our state’s housing supply and needs on a county by county basis.”

Crouch’s director of communications Randy Spieth said the IHCDA created the Housing Working Group, which was charged with undertaking a State Housing Study. Spieth said the public interface for the dashboard will include an online map to see data at different geographies and incorporate other publicly available data.

Crouch said rural housing, in particular, was of utmost importance as the IHCDA was also conducting a pilot process with HUD to create and rehabilitate rural properties throughout Indiana.

“The housing agency that I oversee in December just released their housing inventory dashboard,” said Crouch, on Monday, Jan. 3, in response to a Plain Dealer request during a televised press conference introducing their 2022 Next Level Agenda. “Over the past year we have been conducting a county-by-county statewide inventory of our housing needs by rental properties, single-family, multi-family properties and then that dashboard will allow you to overlay demographic information so that now county, local leaders, developers, builders, anyone can pinpoint exactly where the gaps and needs exist within a county. That, in turn, will help us formulate the kind of policy that will hopefully help us address that housing crisis. Because as the governor mentioned, as we continue to break records in creating jobs in Indiana, it’s extremely important that we have places for people to live and so that housing dashboard will actually start us on the road to being able to implement policy that will help us address that workforce and just general housing shortage.”

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



I CAN HEAR, BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND

Did you know that the earliest sign of hearing difficulty is often the complaint that “I can hear, but I can’t understand.” While this type of comment may seem contradictory, it makes a lot of sense to the hearing care professionals at Beltone. In an industry that is often confusing to consumers – our goal is to make patients comfortable in a no pressure environment. At Beltone, our hearing screenings and evaluations are always complimentary. We take the time to get to know you and your medical history and explain the results of your evaluation in an easy-to-understand way.

What you can expect at Beltone:

Great hearing devices: Our advanced digital technology gives you speech clarity with minimal background noise.

Customer service: From day one, we established a set of values unlike anything else in the industry – making your health our number one priority.

Exclusive BelCare: Receive a lifetime of care and service for both you and your device.

Hearing aids are not just to help you hear but are critical to improving your brain’s ability to decode speech. If hearing loss is left untreated, speech discrimination drops over time. This is because the part of the brain that decodes speech is not getting any exercise. Like a muscle without exercise, the ability to decode speech will deteriorate, but unlike a muscle, in most cases you can’t get it back. This is why it’s very important to get a hearing aid when you need one, rather than waiting until you can’t hear at all.

P.S. We know there are hundreds of hearing aid advertisements out there promising different things. We see the news stories that talk about over-the-counter hearing aids. We can tell you the truth about “cheap” hearing aids—they don’t work very well. At Beltone we are dedicated to finding a hearing solution that is right for both you and your budget!



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*Valid at participating locations only. See locations for details. **Offer valid on one (1) Rely 2 RIE digital hearing aid technology. Fits up to a 35 dB loss. Previous purchases excluded. Cannot be combined with any other promotions or discounts. Benefits of hearing instruments may vary by type and degree of hearing loss, noise environment, accuracy of hearing evaluation and proper fit. 2021 All rights reserved. Beltone is a trademark of GN Hearing Care Corporation.

FINANCING AVAILABLE!



Parents wonder if son’s friendship may be more

DEAR ABBY: My preteen son is friends with a boy I don’t quite approve of, but I understand that sometimes bad decisions lead to future wisdom. When I can, I allow the friend to come to our house to hang out with my son because this friend allegedly has a difficult home life.



During this last visit, I noticed them hanging out a little physically closer than usual. They shared the same recliner to play video games, talked to each other using gamer tags and the like, and had what I assume were numerous inside jokes.

My husband and I would never belittle, degrade or denounce our children for being gay. We know we’re from a bygone era, and we do not assume our particular values are held by our children. We have discussed it and know how to approach it from our perspective if our son announces his orientation. I’m not even certain my perception of his closeness with his friend is accurate.

My husband is more worldly than I am, and he says this kind of behavior is not unusual in the EU. Neither of us wants to address this ahead of anything occurring. We will love our son regardless and support him throughout our lives. I don’t want to make him feel singled out by what may be usual pubescent behavior. My husband and I are in our 30s/40s. We live in an extremely rural area, and this is my son’s only real friend. Any insight would be appreciated. – Wondering On The Farm

DEAR WONDERING: You may be jumping to conclusions unnecessarily. Sitting close to play video games and sharing inside jokes with a best friend are not necessarily signs of being gay. It is what best friends that age do. Whatever your boy’s sexual orientation may be, you say you will love and support him regardless, so this shouldn’t be a problem. His sexual orientation will reveal itself in its own time.

DEAR ABBY: Please help me figure out whether I’ve made a major mistake. I’ve been dating this man, “Frank,” for six months. He has another woman in his life that he told me he’s only a caregiver for, but then I learned he has been taking her to the lake and out to dinner.

After that, I found out she used to be a prostitute and lived with him for a few weeks and that he has been offered sex by her. He went into a panic when she was in the hospital and he didn’t know where she was. He swears up and down that it’s me he loves, not her. Help, please. – Competing In Georgia

DEAR COMPETING: Do some digging. Who is the source of the information you are being given? Is that person a reliable source, or could there be an ulterior motive? For a caregiver to “go into a panic” if his patient disappears would not be unusual.

And, while it’s possible that he is driving to the lake and going out to dinner in his role as a caregiver, if the person paying the tab is him, then it’s a date, and he hasn’t been truthful with you. I would be interested in what you find out. Please write back and let me know.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 Gives the boot to

6 Flourished (Var.)

12 Made tea

14 Rock band crew member

15 Before deadline (2 wds.)

16 Imaginary

17 None

18 — out a living

19 Horse command

21 Road topping

23 Type of overalls

26 Prince Val’s son

27 Kiosk buy, slangily

28 Kind of vinegar

30 Complain persistently

31 Cigar residue

32 Reference book

33 Special skill
- 35 Visitor from Melmac

37 Mdse. bill

38 Secret motive

39 Date regularly

40 Puppy bite

41 Team cheer

42 Consumed

43 Epoch

44 San Francisco hill

46 Quipster

48 Mountainous

51 Honey source

55 Beepers

56 Barked

57 Battery terminals

58 Peasants
- DOWN
- 1 Kimono belt

2 Large vase

3 Become solid

4 String

5 Turnpike rumbler

6 More sincere

- Answer to Previous Puzzle
- 7 Goose’s call

8 Cheese dish

9 Shelley offering

10 Travel word

11 Lamprey

13 River formations

19 A favorite relative

20 Hire

22 Horrified

24 Running in neutral

25 — Babies

26 “Puppy Love” singer

27 Use force

28 Bistro
- 29 Invitation addendum

34 Jangled

36 Room to maneuver

42 Ocean depths

43 Graceful and quick

45 Man-eating giant

47 Imitates

48 Auditor, for short

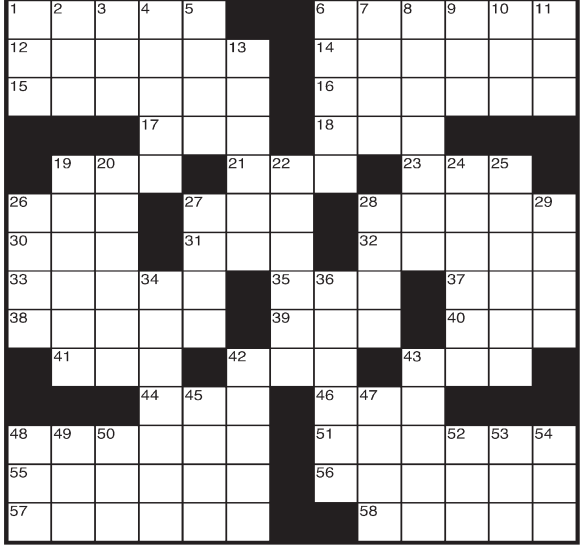
49 Bled, as a color

50 In time past

52 Calendar abbr.

53 TKO official

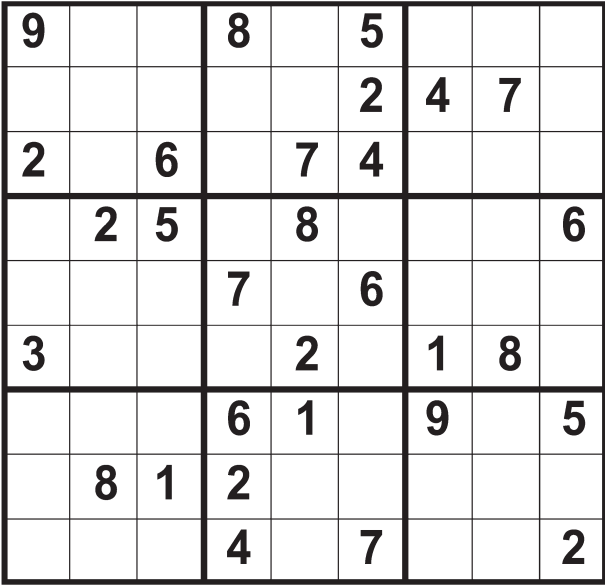
54 Fabric meas.



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆



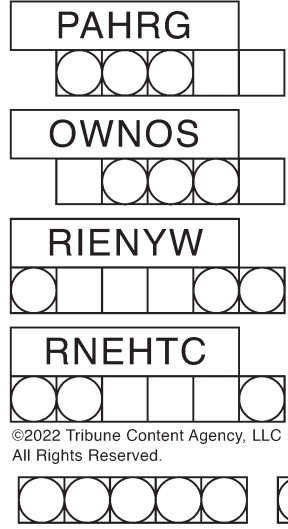
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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION								
7	2	4	9	5	8	1	3	6
9	8	3	4	6	1	5	7	2
1	5	6	7	3	2	9	4	8
4	7	1	5	9	6	2	8	3
5	3	8	1	2	4	6	9	7
6	9	2	3	8	7	4	1	5
3	4	7	6	1	5	8	2	9
2	1	5	8	7	9	3	6	4
8	6	9	2	4	3	7	5	1

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

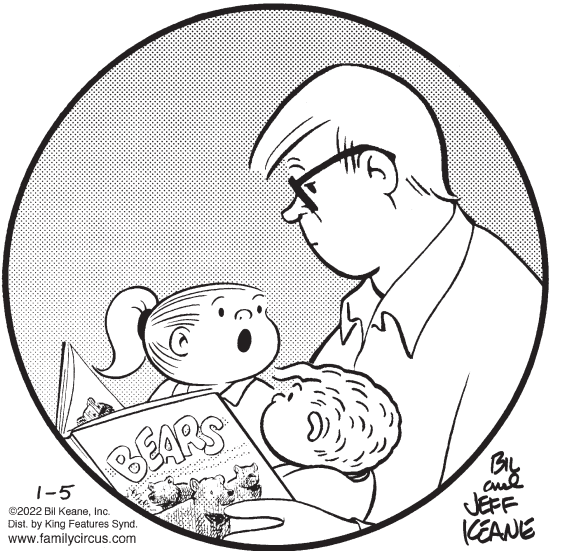


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)
Jumbles: SCOUT OBESE BOTTLE FREELY
Answer: After alphabetizing all the books, the librarian was — OUT OF SORTS

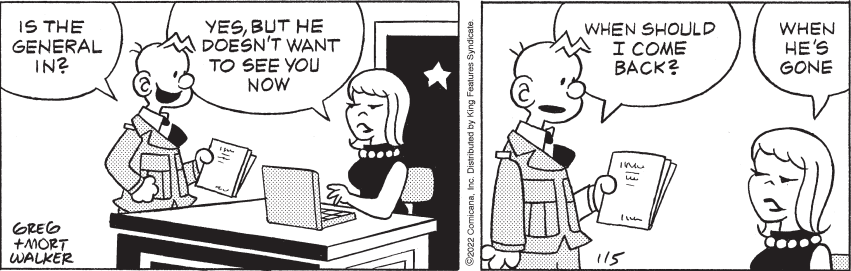
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



“I wouldn’t want to hibernate all winter. I’d miss Christmas.”

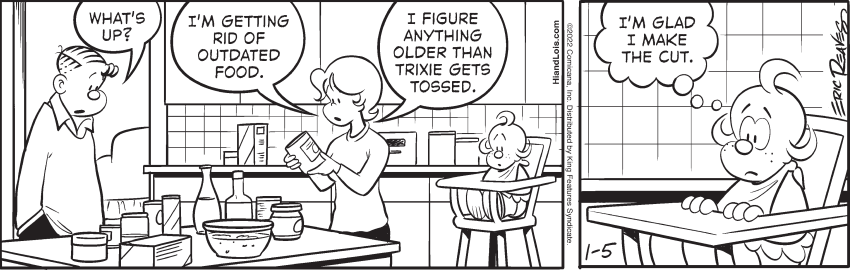
BEETLE BAILEY



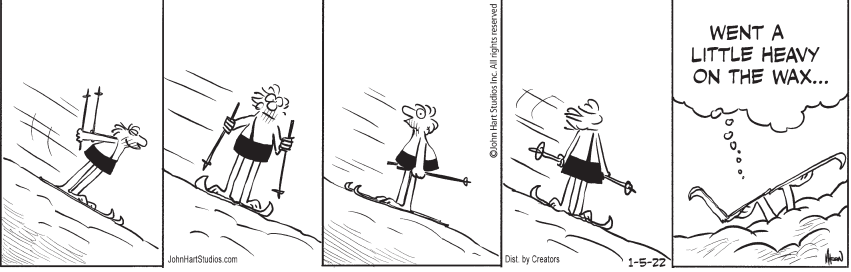
BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



BC



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



Like Jesus, we are to be in the world, but not of the world

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: My son has been a good kid but lately he is giving in to peer pressure

from his friends who have talked him out of going to church, and it’s changing his behavior. While he’s not really comfortable with some of the things they do and say, he feels accepted, and belonging to this group makes him happy. He tries to persuade me that he can make a difference in their lives, but instead they are making a difference in his. Doesn’t that usually spell danger? – F.P.

A: If you add food coloring to water and then put the stems of white flowers in the water for about eight hours in the daytime, they will turn the color of the water! As the

water in the flowers evaporate, the stems “drink up” the colored water, and the flowers change color.

This little science experiment is a good example of why Christians should be careful about how we live among people who do not know the Lord – yet.

Nearly everyone Jesus spent time with was an outcast – someone most people treated in an unfriendly way. But His relationship with them was not just about friendship. He wanted to bring them to God. Like Jesus, we are to be

in the world, but not of the world. When we reach out to others in the name of the Lord – giving them the truth, we are participating in the world, showing that we care. But if we start acting like the world, participating in their questionable behavior, bad language, or exposing our minds to destructive entertainment, then we are worldly. Our purpose in being in the world is to be God’s light – to let others see Jesus in us. We must ask if we are loving people in the world without being changed by them.

CELEBRITY CIPHER by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ P T O I K I Z N Y R H H I Y Y L R B W C P F Y
C J T T A L C O S I Z , U R O I K I Z N J T T A
L C O S I Z F Y C Y R H H I Y Y L R B W C P . ”
– Z T U I Z O A R K C B B

TODAY’S CLUE: A sleuth’s key

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website: www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainedealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20:35

Every day is Jan. 6 now

One year after the smoke and broken glass, the mock gallows and the very real bloodshed of that awful day, it is tempting to look back and imagine that we can, in fact, simply look back. To imagine that what happened on Jan. 6, 2021 – a deadly riot at the seat of American government, incited by a defeated president amid a last-ditch effort to thwart the transfer of power to his successor – was horrifying but that it is in the past and that we as a nation have moved on.

This is an understandable impulse. After four years of chaos, cruelty and incompetence, culminating in a pandemic and the once-unthinkable trauma of Jan. 6, most Americans were desperate for some peace and quiet.

On the surface, we have achieved that. Our political life seems more or less normal these days, as the president pardons turkeys and Congress quarrels over spending bills. But peel back a layer, and things are far from normal. Jan. 6 is not in the past; it is every day.

It is regular citizens who threaten election officials and other public servants, who ask, "When can we use the guns?" and who vow to murder politicians who dare to vote their conscience. It is Republican lawmakers scrambling to make it harder for people to vote and easier to subvert their will if they do. It is Donald Trump who continues to stoke the flames of conflict with his rampant lies and limitless resentments and whose twisted version of reality still dominates one of the nation's two major political parties.

In short, the Republic faces an existential threat from a movement that is openly contemptuous of democracy and has shown that it is willing to use violence to achieve its ends. No self-governing society can survive such a threat by denying that it exists.

Rather, survival depends on looking back and forward at the same time.

Truly grappling with the threat ahead means taking full account of the terror of that day a year ago. Thanks largely to the dogged work of a bipartisan committee in the House of Representatives, this reckoning is underway. We know now that the violence and mayhem broadcast live around the world was only the most visible and visceral part of the effort to overturn the election. The effort extended all the way into the Oval Office, where Mr. Trump and his allies plotted a constitutional self-coup.

We know now that top Republican lawmakers and right-wing media figures privately understood how dangerous the riot was and pleaded with Mr. Trump to call a halt to it, even as they publicly pretended otherwise. We know now that those who may have critical information about the planning and execution of the attack are refusing to cooperate with Congress, even if it means being charged with criminal contempt.

For now, the committee's work continues. It has scheduled a series of public hearings in the new year to lay out these and other details, and it plans to release a full report of its findings before the midterm elections – after which, should Republicans regain control of the House as expected, the committee will undoubtedly be dissolved.

This is where looking forward comes in. Over the past year, Republican lawmakers in 41 states have been trying to advance the goals of the Jan. 6 rioters – not by breaking laws but by making them. Hundreds of bills have been proposed and nearly three dozen laws have been passed that empower state legislatures to sabotage their own elections and overturn the will of their voters, ac-

cording to a running tally by a nonpartisan consortium of pro-democracy organizations.

Some bills would change the rules to make it easier for lawmakers to reject the votes of their citizens if they don't like the outcome. Others replace professional election officials with partisan actors who have a vested interest in seeing their preferred candidate win. Yet more attempt to criminalize human errors by election officials, in some cases even threatening prison.

Many of these laws are being proposed and passed in crucial battleground states like Arizona, Wisconsin, Georgia and Pennsylvania. In the aftermath of the 2020 election, the Trump campaign targeted voting results in all these states, suing for recounts or trying to intimidate officials into finding "missing" votes. The effort failed, thanks primarily to the professionalism and integrity of election officials. Many of those officials have since been stripped of their power or pushed out of office and replaced by people who openly say the last election was fraudulent.

Thus the Capitol riot continues in statehouses across the country, in a bloodless, legalized form that no police officer can arrest and that no prosecutor can try in court.

This isn't the first time state legislatures have tried to wrest control of electoral votes from their own people, nor is it the first time that the dangers of such a ploy have been pointed out. In 1891, President Benjamin Harrison warned Congress of the risk that such a "trick" could determine the outcome of a presidential election.

The Constitution guarantees to all Americans a republican form of government, Harrison said. "The essential features of such a government are the right of the people to choose their own officers" and to have their votes counted equally

in making that choice. "Our chief national danger," he continued, is "the overthrow of majority control by the suppression or perversion of popular suffrage." If a state legislature were to succeed in substituting its own will for that of its voters, "it is not too much to say that the public peace might be seriously and widely endangered."

A healthy, functioning political party faces its electoral losses by assessing what went wrong and redoubling its efforts to appeal to more voters the next time. The Republican Party, like authoritarian movements the world over, has shown itself recently to be incapable of doing this. Party leaders' rhetoric suggests they see it as the only legitimate governing power and thus portrays anyone else's victory as the result of fraud – hence the foundational falsehood that spurred the Jan. 6 attack, that Joe Biden didn't win the election.

"The thing that's most concerning is that it has endured in the face of all evidence," said Representative Adam Kinzinger, one of the vanishingly few Republicans in Congress who remain committed to empirical reality and representative democracy. "And I've gotten to wonder if there is actually any evidence that would ever change certain people's minds."

The answer, for now, appears to be no. Polling finds that the overwhelming majority of Republicans believe that President Biden was not legitimately elected and that about one-third approve of using violence to achieve political goals. Put those two numbers together, and you have a recipe for extreme danger.

Political violence is not an inevitable outcome. Republican leaders could help by being honest with their voters and combating the extremists in their midst. Throughout

American history, party leaders, from Abraham Lincoln to Margaret Chase Smith to John McCain, have stood up for the union and democracy first, to their everlasting credit.

Democrats aren't helpless, either. They hold unified power in Washington, for the last time in what may be a long time. Yet they have so far failed to confront the urgency of this moment – unwilling or unable to take action to protect elections from subversion and sabotage. Blame Senator Joe Manchin or Senator Kyrsten Sinema, but the only thing that matters in the end is whether you get it done. For that reason, Mr. Biden and other leading Democrats should make use of what remaining power they have to end the filibuster for voting rights legislation, even if nothing else.

Whatever happens in Washington, in the months and years to come, Americans of all stripes who value their self-government must mobilize at every level – not simply once every four years but today and tomorrow and the next day – to win elections and help protect the basic functions of democracy. If people who believe in conspiracy theories can win, so can those who live in the reality-based world.

Above all, we should stop underestimating the threat facing the country. Countless times over the past six years, up to and including the events of Jan. 6, Mr. Trump and his allies openly projected their intent to do something outrageous or illegal or destructive. Every time, the common response was that they weren't serious or that they would never succeed. How many times will we have to be proved wrong before we take it seriously? The sooner we do, the sooner we might hope to salvage a democracy that is in grave danger.

This editorial was first published in the New York Times.

LETTERS

More heroes than we thought

It has taken post-World War II America a long time to figure out that police, firefighters and the military are not the only heroes in our society.

Indeed, country music singers, rappers, movie stars and billionaires have been getting more and more traction in recent decades. Outstanding individual pay-it-forward-type citizens have stood out as well.

But once the pandemic broke out, America finally realized we had to lean on health care workers, teachers, and even factory, transportation, and retail workers more than ever before. And those workers stood up to the task amazingly well.

In our democracy, especially in its economically and socially declining phase, we should also consider the existence of other, largely unrecognized, categories of heroes. In my mind, these include nonprofit founders, public health, welfare, and justice system officials (yes, even judges), small business owners and newspaper editors.

And if we are somehow able to think like an actual free people, we can't overlook our family ancestors, our churches, our elected officials, and especially the founders of our nation.

Heroes are not defined alone by muscles, courage, and money. They must also have the knowledge, public spirit and exemplary lives.

Kimball Shinkoskey
Woods Cross, Utah

Partisanship and education

Indiana Republican lawmakers are considering several issues related to public schools for debate during their next legislative session, begins the story in Newsweek, "including potentially adding the choice to be

identified on the ballot with a particular political party when running for a school board seat."



state schools Superintendent Jennifer McCormick, who was elected in 2016 as a Republican but has since changed her party affiliation.

"I think the people who will be encouraged to run are those that are going to be good soldiers for these political agendas," McCormick said, according to the Associated Press. "It's hard to find good people who want to do it for the right reason, and they're out there, but it's tough. And then you layer this on – it's a whole other layer of difficulty."

I am reminded of the times as a rabid IU basketball fan (back in the

Bobby Knight days) when I noticed that the retaliatory foul was so often the one that got called. The refs would miss the initial foul but see the one committed in response, and that's the one that was noticed.

Republicans are not seeking to add partisanship to school boards. They are reacting to the partisanship they already see there. There is a conservative education agenda and a progressive education agenda, and Republicans think the progressive agenda is winning handily. They merely want to level the playing field, or at least make it more transparent by giving voters a better idea of candidates' core philosophies.

And that retaliatory foul, rather than the precipitating one, is what Democrats, journalists and educators are calling.

Basketball is such a good metaphor for Indiana, let's try another comparison.

If you've observed a group of rabid fans watching a game, you will have learned that all the refs are crooks. And here's the amazing thing: All the bad calls the crooked refs make – for which they obviously have been handsomely paid – are made against whatever team the rabid fans are rooting for. It's the most cosmic unreport-

ed conspiracy in history.

That's where we are with public schools today. Conservatives think the other side wants to tear down everything that's made this country great. Progressives think the opposition wants to hold on to everything wrong with the country. And neither side thinks the refs will ever call the game fairly and honestly.

And when parents – you remember them, the ones who give up their children to these institutions – try to get more involved, the bureaucrats in Washington call them domestic terrorists.

How in the world did it come to this?

My parents never made a single complaint, or even raised a single concern, about what was being taught in the schools I attended. Neither did the parents of any of my friends.

They weren't bad parents. It wasn't that they didn't care what we were being taught. It's that they trusted the schools to give us what we needed to make our way, consistent with the lessons they tried to instill in the home.

For a growing number of parents, that trust is no longer there.

I realize I've said this before, and heaven knows I will say it again, but public education was once a trusted

enterprise because it transmitted our civilizational culture from generation to generation, our Western values and American ideals. We no longer agree on the worth of that culture. We are fractured as a country, and now our schools transmit our sense of disconnect.

Right now, schools are just a symptom of our great divide. But ultimately, they will help sharpen and perpetuate it, or be our best way out of it

First, we need to rediscover our common ground. If not, we will end up with two separate paths – a public school system for one group of Americans and a private-home school combination for the other – that will forever perpetuate two separate Americas.

It doesn't really matter whether we call school board candidates Democrat or Republican or nonpartisan. The game is bigger than that. And before we look for honest refs, we need to agree on the rules.

Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leoedits@yahoo.com.



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0200

EMPLOYMENT

The City of Marion will be accepting applications through Friday, January 14th, 2022 for the following position:

The City of Marion is seeking an energetic, self-motivated individual for a full-time Code Enforcement Officer.

Job responsibilities: Responsible for the enforcement of City codes and ordinances; conducts investigations and makes reports for code violations; performs other duties assigned by the Building Commissioner.

Qualifications: Any combination of education, training and experience which provides the necessary skills, knowledge and abilities to perform the work of this position; must possess valid driver's license.

To apply: Complete an application (available on our website: www.cityofmarion.in.gov) and mail to City of Marion, Attn: Human Resources, 301 S. Branson St., Marion, IN 46952.

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STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF WABASH) SS:
IN THE WABASH CO. CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO. 85C01-2112-EU-000113
IN THE MATTER OF THE
UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF
O. CAROL BUCKLEY, DECEASED
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Susan L. Mattern was, on December 13th, 2021, appointed personal representative of the estate of O. Carol Buckley, deceased, who died on the 13th day of November, 2021. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the Office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Wabash, Indiana, this 13th day of December, 2021.
/s/ Lori J. Draper (SEAL)
CLERK, WABASH CIRCUIT COURT
DOWNS TANDY & PETRUNIW, P.C.
99 West Canal Street
Wabash, Indiana 46992
HSPAXLP.12/29/2021,01/05/2022

0900

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Sheriff Sale File number: 85-22-0002-SS
Date & Time of Sale: Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.
Sale Location: Wabash County Sheriff's Department basement, Miami Street entrance, 79 W Main Street
Judgment to be Satisfied: \$113,236.47

Cause Number: 85C01-1903-MF-000214
Plaintiff: LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING LLC
Defendant: TAISHA R. GETMAN and UNKNOWN TENANT

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Superior/Circuit Court of Wabash County, Indiana, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said DECREE, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time and location listed above, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate, a certain tract or parcel of land described as follows:

The following described real estate situated in the County of Wabash, State of Indiana, to-wit: Part of Outlot Number Twenty (20) in the Northern Addition to the Town (now City) of Wabash, bounded and described as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a point on the South line of said Outlot Two Hundred Forty-six (246) feet West of the southeast corner thereof; thence West Fifty-four and Twenty hundredths (54.20) feet; thence North Five and One-fourth (5 1/4) degrees West Fifty-three and Forty-six hundredths (53.46) feet to the South line of Stitt Street; thence North Seventy-four (74) degrees Twenty (20) minutes East along the South line of Stitt Street, Fifty-four and Forty-two hundredths (54.42) feet; thence South Five and One-fourth (5 1/4) degrees East Sixty-nine (69) feet to the place of beginning.

ALSO Part of Outlot Number Nineteen (19) in the Northern Addition to the Town (now City) of Wabash, bounded and described as follows, to-wit: Beginning at said point on the South line of said Outlot Number Twenty (20), Two Hundred Forty-six (246) feet West of the Southeast corner thereof; thence South across said Outlot Number Nineteen (19) to a point Two Hundred Seventeen and Thirty-five hundredths (217.35) feet West of the Southeast corner of said Outlot Number Nineteen (19); thence West on the South line of said Outlot, Fifty-four and Twenty hundredths (54.20) feet; thence North One Hundred Sixteen and Twenty hundredths (116.20) feet to the point on the North line of said Outlot which is distant Three Hundred and Twenty hundredths (300.20) feet West of the Northeast corner thereof; thence East on said North line Fifty-four and Twenty hundredths (54.20) feet to the place of beginning.

Commonly Known as: 45 STITT ST., WABASH, IN 46992-1722
Parcel No. 85-14-11-104-064.000-009

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, this sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. In accordance to the requirements of IC 32-29-7-3, this Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of this real estate upon the owners.
* An entire Sheriff's Sale may be cancelled due to inclement weather or other county emergencies. If the entire Sheriff's Sale is cancelled, each parcel will be cancelled. Each parcel will be assigned to the next available sale (normally 2 months from original sale). This will allow compliance with Indiana Code concerning posting, publication, and serving time frames. Also, new Sheriff's Sale fees will be assessed and the parcels will be automatically re-advertised. The plaintiff will be responsible for the new fees and advertising costs.

Barry T Barnes, Plaintiff's Attorney
Attorney No.
Feiwell & Hannoy PC
8415 Allison Pointe Boulevard, Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46250
(317) 237-2727
Atty File#: 100706F01

Ryan Baker, Sheriff
By: Connie Rich, Administrative Assistant
Phone: (260) 563-8891

Noble Township

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0900

MIAMI COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Sheriff's Sale File Number: 52-22-0004-SS
Date & Time of Sale: Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at 10:00 AM
Sale Location: Miami County Sheriff Department lobby, 1104 W. 200 N., Peru, IN
Judgment to be Satisfied: \$61,038.55

Cause Number: 52D02-1810-MF-000318
Plaintiff: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
Defendant: Eagle's Pointe Homeowners Association, Inc. and Susan J. Howlette

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Miami Superior Court 2 of Miami County, Indiana, required me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, at the hour of 10:00 AM of said day as listed above, at 1104 W 200 N, Peru, IN 46970, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Miami County, Indiana:

The following described real estate located in Miami County, Indiana: Lot 899 in Estates at Eagle's Pointe, a Subdivision in Miami County, Indiana, as recorded in Instrument No. Vol 61 pages 156-173 as amended by Instrument No. Vol 62, pages 382-398 in the Office of the Recorder of Miami County, Indiana.

Commonly Known as: 3234 SCHILLING ST., PERU, IN 46970-8733
Parcel No. 52-10-26-201-191.000-017

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. This Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of the above-described real estate upon the owners, pursuant to requirements of IC 32-29-7-3.

Timothy Hunter, Sheriff of Miami County
By: Kim Brown, Matron
Phone: (765) 472-1322

Township of property location: Pipe Creek
Common street address of property: 3234 Schilling St, Peru, IN 46970-8733
Property Tax ID: 52-10-26-201-191.000-017

Attorney: BRYAN K. REDMOND
Attorney Number: 22108-29
Law Firm: Feiwell & Hannoy, P.C.
Contact Number: (317) 237-2727
F&H Reference #: 099227F01

The sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings.

PLEASE SERVE
Susan J. Howlette
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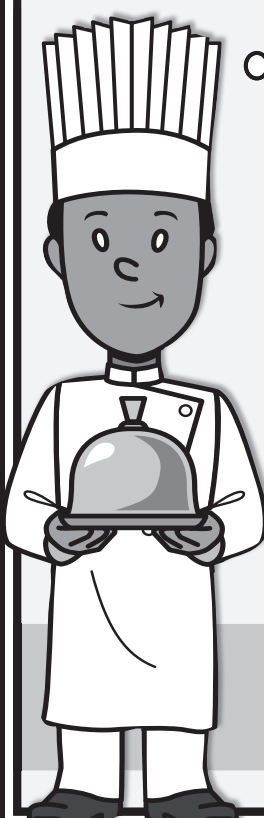
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TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Sheriff's Sale File Number: 85-22-0003-SS
Date & Time of Sale: Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.
Sale Location: Wabash County Sheriff's Department basement, Miami Street entrance, 79 W. Main St., Wabash, IN
Judgment to be Satisfied: \$41,740.84

Cause Number: 85D01-2102-MF-000079
Plaintiff: PNC Bank, National Association
Defendant: Leslie Barker

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Wabash Superior Court of Wabash County, Indiana, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, at the hour of 10:00 AM of said day as listed above, at 79 West Main Street, Wabash, IN 46992, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wabash County, Indiana:

LOT NUMBER TWO (2) AND THE EAST TWENTY-SIX (26) FEET OF LOT NUMBER ONE (1) IN EASTERN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF WABASH AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK #2, PAGES 111-112 IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF WABASH COUNTY.

Commonly Known as: 234 E. MAIN ST., WABASH, IN 46992-2811
Parcel No. 85-14-11403-091.000-009

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. This Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of the above-described real estate upon the owners, pursuant to requirements of IC 32-29-7-3.

Ryan Baker, Sheriff of Wabash County
By: Connie Rich, Administrative Assistant
Phone: (260) 563-8891

Township of property location: Noble
Common street address of property: 234 E Main St, Wabash, IN 46992-2811
Property Tax ID: 85-14-11-403-091.000-009

Attorney: BARRY T. BARNES
Attorney Number: 19657-49
Law Firm: Feiwel & Hannoy, P.C.
Contact Number: (317) 237-2727
F&H Reference #: 103625F01

The sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings.
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Photo by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

Manchester kept themselves in the game with a three from Brookelynn Buzzard.

Northfield girls basketball runs away with consolation match over Squires

The Norse moved into .500 with the victory

By **CLAY MAXFIELD**
Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

Northfield's varsity girls basketball team finished the Wabash County Tournament in third place on Thursday when they routed Manchester 47 to 31 and handed the Squires their 15th loss of the season.

The Norse moved into .500 with the victory.

Northfield head coach Brandon Baker reflected on his team's showcase throughout the week after losing their first-round tournament game to Southwood, by a score of 61 to 50.

"I was very happy with our second half tonight," Baker said. "I don't think we played terribly yesterday but we just told them the first time we played Southwood, they missed a lot of open shots. They didn't miss them last night. ... Our effort was all right both games but I was very happy with how we executed and our intensity in the second half tonight."

Going into the tournament, Northfield held a three-to-nothing record against county teams.

After opening the game with an 11-to-four first-quarter lead, Northfield continued to keep their foot on the gas in the second quarter when they went on a seven-point run including a jump shot from Camryn Kuhn and a put-back by Hannah Holmes.

Manchester kept themselves in the game with a three from Brookelynn Buzzard and inside work by Gracie Lauer.

Buzzard and Ainsely West led the Squires with seven points each.

The Squires head coach Allie Kauffman believes that while her team has improved steadily along the season, the end goal is to put a complete four quarters together.

"We are definitely improving overall in the season. It's just our consistency and our defense. Our mental toughness. Our shots weren't falling in the third quarter yesterday, it was kind of quarter yesterday that we didn't



Photo by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

Elli Baker led the team with 14 points.

have our feet underneath us and we drop our heads. Today it was the second half," Kauffman said.

The second-half collapse that Kauffman spoke of came started in the third quarter when Northfield outscored Manchester 13 to three before the Norse buried the Squires for good in the final period with 23 fourth-quarter points.

A seven-point spurt by Elli Baker, Eden Hoover and Ainsley Dale kickstarted the Northfield offense in the third as Baker led the team with 14 points followed by Hannah Holmes' 13 points and 10 rebounds.

For Baker, the county tournament is a stepping stone in a slow ascension to becoming the team that can consistently compete night in and night out.

"I hope that we build momentum," Baker said. "We're struggling right now to play how we practice. We

do a lot of good things in practice and then we get in the games and kind of lose our heads. I hope that we can settle down and get into the flow of the game."

Coming into the game, Manchester averaged just 36 points a game offensively but were held below their average by a Northfield squad that has given up 50 a game to opponents on the defensive side of the ball.

Despite the continual growth that Baker feels his team still has to do, their overall goal remains the same.

"I know we're halfway into the season and these girls still haven't played a lot together. They're still learning each other and trying to figure that out. ... We want to be playing the best we can be, come the tournament."

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Manchester boys knock off Northfield in holiday tourney

Squires will have a week of competition before traveling Jan. 14 back to Wabash

By **CLAY MAXFIELD**
Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

Manchester's varsity boys basketball team used a 22-point first quarter Thursday afternoon to nearly double up cross-county rival Northfield, 64 to 34, in the consolation round of the Wabash County Tournament.

The Squires fell to Wabash, 63 to 49 in the first round of tournament play the day prior.

Wabash shot 51 percent from the along with seven three-pointers in Manchester's loss to the Apaches.

For the Squires head coach Eli Henson, Manchester took their first-round loss to the Apaches as a learning experience while looking to improve their effort in the second-round match-up against Northfield.

"We knew verse Wabash it was going to be tough," Henson said. "They have good guards and they do a good job of pressuring us on defense. That's something that we struggle with so far this year so I'm glad that happened. We gotta learn in these types of games."

"We knew today we needed to come out with better



Photo by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

Gavin Betten led the Squires with 17 points when he dominated inside after the Squires' hot start from three opened up the paint for him to navigate throughout the remainder of the game.

energy and that was our focus is picking up our intensity a little bit on defense."

Manchester opened up the game with five straight threes on each of their offensive possessions as William Rickerd and Tyler McClain felt it early from

distance.

Rickerd and McClain combined for 25 of the team's 64 points with Rickerd registering as the team's second-leading scorer with 14.

See **SQUIRES**, page A10

Spartans men's basketball holds on to down Transylvania

Manchester will travel to rival Anderson University on Wednesday

By **DILLON BENDER**

The Manchester University men's basketball team began the New Year on a high note on Sunday afternoon after holding on to down the Transylvania Pioneers 88-80 in Stauffer-Wolfe Arena.

The Black and Gold used a barrage of threes in the opening period to build a sizable lead against Transylvania. First-year Bryant Smith, from West Lafayette and Harrison High School, led the long-range assault with five three-pointers in the first half. He made his first four three-point attempts. Smith had 17 points at the intermission. CJ Hampton, from Hammond and Griffith High School, also knocked down a pair of three-pointers in the first half. The Spartans finished nine for 15 from beyond the three-point arc, while also shooting a blistering 59.4 percent (19 for 32) from the field over the game's first 20 minutes.

Manchester led 51 to 33 at the break.

Following halftime, Transylvania slowly eroded Manchester's lead. The Pi-

oneers used an initial 16 to five surge to cut the Spartans' lead back down to 10 points. After a couple of Manchester baskets, the Pioneers used another eight-to-two run to cut the deficit to just seven points.

Manchester was able to push its lead back into double figures, however, another late burst saw the Pioneers trail by just four points, 82 to 78, with 32 seconds left in regulation.

The Black and Gold stepped up at the free-throw line down the stretch, converting nine-of-10 foul shot attempts to seal the win.

The Spartans led for 38:58 in Sunday's contest.

All five Spartan starters scored in double figures. Bryant Smtih led the way with 20 points. Smith finished seven of 13 shooting and six of 10 from distance. Brandon Christlieb, from Ashley and Prairie Heights High School, added 19 points and six rebounds. Christlieb shot 11 for 12 from the charity stripe. CJ Hampton scored 17 points and added seven rebounds and four assists. Quent-ez Columbus, from South

Bend and Adams High School, narrowly missed a double-double, finishing with 14 points and nine assists. He also snatched seven boards. Ian Snelling, from Erlanger, Kentucky, and Dixie Heights High School, scored 13 points in the winning effort.

The Spartans finished Sunday's game shooting 28 for 58 from the floor – good for 48.3 percent. The Spartans shot 11 for 23 (47.8 percent) from three and were 21-26 (80.8 percent) from the free-throw line.

Transylvania shot 31 for 74 (41.9 percent) from the field and was limited to just three for 19 shooting (15.8 percent) from three-point territory.

Sunday's win over Transylvania was the first in the head-to-head series for Manchester since Feb. 18, 2017. The victory snapped a six-game skid in the series.

Manchester (3-8, 2-2 HCAC) will travel to rival Anderson University on Wednesday, Jan. 5 for a 7:30 p.m. showdown with the Ravens.

Transylvania (6-5, 1-3 HCAC) will travel to Earlham College on Wednesday, Jan. 5.

Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.



Provided photo

First-year Bryant Smith, from West Lafayette and Harrison High School, led the long-range assault with five three-pointers in the first half.

Southwood girls clinch first-ever county championship



Southwood's varsity girls basketball team put the clamps on county rival, Wabash High School on Thursday evening when they limited the Apaches offensively en route to their first county tournament championship in program history, by a score of 64 to 54.



Alaina Winer helped lead Southwood in scoring.

Wabash didn't go down easily, as the Apaches put together a 22-point second quarter

By **CLAY MAXFIELD**
Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

Southwood's varsity girls basketball team put the clamps on county rival, Wabash High School on Thursday evening when they limited the Apaches offensively en route to their first county tournament championship in program history, by a score of 64 to 54.

The Knights' defense pressured Wabash into single-digit scoring in the first and third quarters while also forcing the opposition into 22 turnovers, 19 of which resulted in Southwood steals.

From Southwood head coach Kenneth Norman's perspective, composure was key for his Knights to pull off the monumental win.

"To handle their good run, we went in a halftime and our girls were at rock bottom and I told our girls if we score 31 again, we win and we scored 33," Norman said. "I thought that was a good effort because they had a defensive plan to stop our best player. It really is a momentum builder for us, hopefully, we carry this on."

Going into Thursday night, Southwood had lost three of the last four match-ups with Wabash but Aleia Sweet, Alaina Winer and Ella Hauptert had other things in mind for the Knights as they led their team in scoring with a combined effort of 49 points.

Southwood opened the



Photos by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

Wabash didn't go down easily, however, as the Apaches put together a 22-point second quarter.

game by doubling up Wabash in the first quarter, 18 to nine when Bailey Wyatt converted on a three and Winer finished on a pull-up jumper to help put together a six-point run for the Knights.

Wabash didn't go down easily, however, as the Apaches put together a 22-point second quarter behind Libby Mattern's 17 points, six of which came to end the half when she knocked in back-to-back three-pointers.

While Wabash didn't leave with the results they wanted, Apaches head coach Matt Stone believes they may have found a winning formula for the remainder of the season.

"Their other girls, we're taking Hauptert away from them but Winer and Sweet did us in. They came out to start the fourth quarter and both buried a couple of threes. ... Our kids didn't quit. Our kids played hard. If we can't play with that kind of intensity in the last third of the season, we'll win some games," said Stone.

On the glass, Wabash dominated Southwood 43 to 25

in the rebounding category but the offensive momentum never slowed down for the Knights.

Southwood went on a 13-to-nothing run midway through the fourth quarter as the Knights outscored Wabash by a score of 19 to six.

During the Knights' pivotal run, Aleia Sweet went for 10 points including two three-pointers while the Apaches were left searching for answers.

For Sweet, the win over Wabash was a showcase of the work that the Knights have put in all season long.

"This win means a lot for us," Sweet said. "Never winning in school history for the first time is a big deal. We put a lot of hard work into this. It really just showed off in the last two days. ... It's our whole team, in the end, just playing smart and making smart passes. Trying not to get too rushed and mentally fall behind the other team."

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Knights take down Wabash for county boys title

Apaches will look for redemption Friday when they host Southwood

By **CLAY MAXFIELD**
Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

The Knights took home the Wabash County Championship along with bragging rights on Thursday evening when Southwood's varsity boys basketball team took down Wabash by a score of 59 to 55.

Southwood's win was their first county championship since the '17-'18 season when the Knights beat the Apaches by 22.

Wabash led by two at half-time before Southwood used a 22-point third quarter to gain momentum towards their eventual four-point win.

For Southwood head coach John Burrus, the win meant just as much for the team in the moment as it did for their legacy moving forward.

"It's just a testament to the kids," Burrus said. "They want to keep a lot of the tradition going. They don't want to see our program get where we're not doing special things and we want to play for championships. These guys got an opportunity to play for one and they got it done."

"Our defense was really good tonight and forcing turnovers. We got Wabash a little bit out of their game where they get comfortable on the three-point line. ... That takes a lot of effort on a second night."

Coming into Thursday night, Wabash shot 41 percent from the three-point line but were held to 32 percent shooting, with Grant Ford and Izaak Wright both shooting three for five from distance.

Wabash started the game hot offensively, tacking on nine unanswered points and forcing a Southwood timeout early on.

The stoppage in play by the Knights proved to be just what Southwood needed as they came out of their timeout with a seven-to-nothing run courtesy of layups by Jason Oprisek and Cole Winer along with a three from Isaiah Sutton in his second game back this season.



Photos by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

Southwood's win was their first county championship since the '17-'18 season when the Knights beat the Apaches by 22.



Wabash rolled through Manchester, 63 to 49, behind 29 points from Trevor Daughtry.

Experience and veteran leadership played a huge role in the Knights' ability to withstand multiple Wabash runs throughout the championship game.

"I think it's the maturity of the kids. Every year it's going to be a little bit different. Cole Winer's got the most experience and Isaiah Sutton, we just got him back this week so that little guard out there breaking them down, he was a big key to this win and the way they played. ... Our kids are juniors so they are a force to be reckoned with," Burrus said.

Wabash rolled through Manchester, 63 to 49 behind 29 points from Trevor Daughtry and 51 percent shooting from the field as a team.

That same Apache offense showed signs of carrying them to victory Thursday evening when Izaak Wright

put together a six-point run of his own to make it a one-possession game going into the third quarter.

Wright led the Apaches with 24 points and nine rebounds while Grant Ford finished with 13 points and eight boards.

Just as they had all game, Southwood took Wabash's offensive flurries in stride, countering with their 11-point run to open the second half when Oprisek and Winer scored on back to back buckets in the paint.

Wabash won't have to wait long for a shot at redemption Friday, Jan. 7 when they host Southwood at home in a Three Rivers Conference match-up.

Winer, who hit consecutive jump shots to start the fourth quarter, put a shaky semifinal performance the night prior behind him to help lead his team to county hardware.



The stoppage in play early in the game by the Knights proved to be just what Southwood needed as they came out of their timeout with a seven-to-nothing run, which included a layup by Jason Oprisek.

"I had a bad game yesterday," Winer said. "We won but I had five fouls, three points so I came out today and was focused. I told myself if my team needs a bucket to win, I was going to get that bucket. Anything to win, I was going to do it."

Winer finished with 20 points and seven rebounds.

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SQUIRES

From page A9

Gavin Betten led the Squires with 17 points when he dominated inside after the Squires' hot start from three opened up the paint for him to navigate throughout the remainder of the game.

Northfield head coach Rex Reimer found it difficult for his team to make up ground offensively after falling behind early in the game.

"I started in a two on three. I guess I didn't have much faith in our man-to-man against 34 (Gavin Betten). I guess my team proved me wrong and they hit five quick threes and kind of set the tone for the rest of the game. It's hard to come back after being down 22 to five after the first quarter."

The Norse went on a run midway through the second quarter when Noah Burkhart converted on a bucket inside followed by back-to-back jumpers from Paul Treska but Northfield went to the locker room at half-time searching for answers to get them out of a 34 to 17 deficit.

Eli Kroh led Northfield

with 12 points.

After dropping their previous two games before the start of the tourney, Northfield was edged out by Southwood 45-41 in the opening round where they gave up nine offensive boards along with the Knights getting their hands on 15 steals.

Northfield registered 23 total turnovers against Southwood and left Reimer looking for answers at the guard position.

"What I told them after the game is we have to get better at ball handling," Reimer said. "We're just limited in the guard play. Every team we face has good guards. Us as a coaching staff, that's what we talk about. Good teams have good guards and if you have good guards, you're gonna win games."

In the opposing locker room, Manchester's win brought them to .500 on the season where they will have a week of competition before traveling Friday, Jan. 14 back to Wabash for a county rematch against the Apaches.

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Photo by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

The Norse went on a run midway through the second quarter, which included back-to-back jumpers from Paul Treska.